

# Disaster Responder Training



**FEMA**

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# Objectives

- Review safety in ICS, NRP and MA process
- Discuss worker related training considerations
- Discuss disaster training mechanisms

# Safety & Health

- Safety reports to IC
- Command Support
- When appropriate, ESF-5 activates the DOL OSHA to provide appropriate support to coordinate and implement the safety functions required by the command staff
- A mission assignment can be requested for any federal agency

# ESF-5

- Emergency Management – Primary agency is FEMA
- Purpose – support the overall activities of the Federal Government for domestic incidents. Provides the core management and administrative functions in the NRCC, RRCC, and JFO
- Serves as the support ESF for all Federal departments from prevention to response and recovery
- Implements the Execution Checklist as outlined in the Catastrophic Incident Annex
- Provides staff to fill management positions in the Command, Ops, Log, Planning, and Admin functions.



# Safety Coordinator

- Has the following roles
  - Ensure the Chief of Staff and the PFO receive coordinated, consistent, accurate, and timely safety and health information and technical assistance
  - Support the Safety Officer(s) at the ICP by coordinating worker safety & health resources and providing technical assistance as necessary
  - Ensure the safety & health of the personnel at the JFO. The Safety Coordinator may receive technical assistance from responding safety and health personnel by implementing the Worker Safety & Health Support Annex.

# National Response

- NRP
- ESF Annexes
- Support Annexes
- Incident Annexes

# ESF



- 15 ESFs
- Most are structured in the ICS under operations
  - ESF 1 - Transportation (DOT)
  - ESF 2 - Communication (DHS)
  - ESF 3 - Public Works and Engineering (USACE)
  - ESF –4 Firefighting (USFS)
  - ESF 5 - Emergency Management (FEMA)
  - ESF – 6 Mass care (Red Cross)
  - ESF – 7 Resource Management (GSA) under logistics

# ESF

- ESF-8 – Public Health (HHS)
- ESF-9 Urban Search & Rescue
- ESF-10 – oil and hazmat response (EPA)
- ESF-11 – Agriculture (DOA)
- ESF 12- Energy (DOE)
- ESF 13 – Public Safety & Law Enforcement DHS,DOJ)
- ESF 14 Long term recovery
- ESF 15 – External Affairs



# Other important annexes

- Worker Safety & Health Annex (OSHA-technical support)
- Catastrophic Incident Annex

# Disaster Workers

- Response vs. recovery
- Public vs. private
- Separated by agency
  - Federal, state, local, tribal
- Separated by employee type
  - Full-time, on-call
- Separated by pay status
  - Paid vs. volunteer

# Type of worker

- Experience
- Types of training opportunities
- Budget
- Time
- Risk & risk taking
- Effects how they can be reached for training opportunities

# Public vs. private

- public agencies often mission specific
  - Familiarity with environment
    - ESF 13 vs. ESF 10
- Private contractors
  - Less familiarity
  - Everyone with truck hauling debris

# Agency type

- Feds
  - can be reached through FEMA interagency committees
  - contract stipulations to comply with OSH
  - Some have training centers
    - FEMA (EMI), ESF 13 (FLETC)

# FEMA – EMI

- Independent study course
- Resident courses
- Disaster cadre – DFTO
- Coordinate disaster training

# EMI courses

- Many have safety component
  - Disaster Fundamentals of Management (DFOM)
  - Managing Workers at a Disaster
  - Debris Management Program
    - Has sample contract with includes OSH
  - PA Ops (Public Assistance)
  - Specific cadre training
    - Annually at EMI
    - Field training

# DFTO

- Disaster field training office
- Courses in the field
  - Safety orientation at field offices
  - Stress management awareness
  - Workplace violence
  - Dog bite video – Florida
  - Community Relation (CR) Training

# DFTO & Katrina Handouts

- Hurricane hazards
- Protecting yourself
- Fatigue
- Animals, insects & other critters
- Heat

# Federal Contractors

- Many are identified pre-incident
- Contract language
  - Skilled and trained
  - Follow up

# Future needs

- Communication and Familiarity with NRP
- Interagency safety committee(s)
  - Training
  - Accident data

# NIEHS

- Present at interagency safety committee
- Information to ESFLG

# NIEHS/FEMA

- Need to identify agency needs
  - Some agency routinely work in disaster environment, others do not
    - ESF – 13 opportunity with FLETC
  - On-call workforce – FEMA, USACE
    - Age, experience
  - Contractors
  - Voluntary agencies
    - Mass care is ESF
    - Community volunteers (americore) – blue roofs

# State/local disaster workers

- Harder to reach through Stafford Act Assistance
  - Compliance with Applicable federal, state, and local safety regulations to get assistance
- Same diversity
- Some harder to reach because site is entire state
  - Debris site workers vs. roofers

# Training

- Pre-incident courses
- Incident briefings - situational
- Modular and performance based
- Levels of training that build on each other
- Must provide for prior knowledge and experience

# Needs assessment

- Data review
  - OSHA logs and OWCP data
  - OSHA interventions
- Training programs survey
- Strategies to correct – training or enforcement

# Hazard Assessment

- Much can be done pre-incident
- Incident related
  - Natural
    - Avian Flu
  - Technological
    - Hot zone, HAZWOPER
  - Man-made
    - Hot zones, HAZWOPER

# Hazard Assessment for recovery workers

- Development of flow charts for hazard assessment
  - Was there wind (yes/no)
  - Did water stand in structures long
  - Residential vs. industrial damage

# Hazard Assessment for rescue workers

- Early hazard assessment – risk based
  - Information from rescue teams, EPA, OSHA
- Share information
- Early deployment with these teams to pre-plan training needs of recovery workers

# Pre-incident training

- All modules
  - Hazards created by the event – common to all workers
  - Hazards created by work – who impacted
  - PPE, voluntary use of respirators
- Commonalities with natural disasters
  - Water
  - Collapsed structures
    - Wind, earthquake, explosion

# On-scene briefings

- In the field
- In field offices
- Should concentrate on site specifics
  - Review commonalities

# Residential workers

- Information at suppliers – building material stores
- Information at shelters
- At water and supply distribution points
- Mini-training at supplies and shelters

# Summary

- Must develop alliance and training materials pre-event
- Partner with agencies and their training mechanisms
- Raise awareness with contractors to realize they need the training
- Capitalize on incentives to training- contract language and follow-up
- Visibility and interdependence of agencies and contractors
- Must be adaptable and performance oriented